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not the same as contacting a valve chamber rim which causes a portion of a valve retainer to flex between a disengaged position and an engaged position. In contrast, the check valve retainer 300 of *Narasipura, et al.* would not flex by contacting the opening 107 (See Column 2, lines 50-52). Nothing within the specification or figures of the *Narasipura, et al.* reference discloses or suggests that the check valve retainer 300 flexes in response to contacting a valve chamber rim of a valve chamber. Therefore, claims 1-5, 7-10, 19 and 21-23 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 21 is independently allowable over the *Narasipura, et al.* reference. Claim 21 requires that "at least a portion of said snap fit connector contacts said valve." The check valve retainer 300 of *Narasipura, et al.* fails to contact the valve disk 106. Figure 3 of *Narasipura, et al.* is attached below and illustrates the check valve retainer 300 with crosshatching. The crosshatched part indicates that no portion of the check valve retainer 300 contacts the valve 106 (i.e., no portion of the check valve retainer 300 extends toward the valve disk and therefore no portion would contact the check valve disk). A cavity 104 separate from the valve retainer 300 contacts the valve disk in *Narasipura, et al.* Accordingly, claim 21 is independently allowable over *Narasipura, et al.*

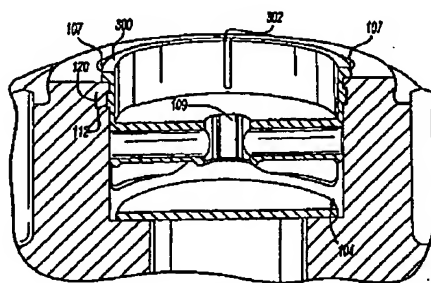


Fig-3

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5, 7-9, 19 and 21-23 are in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this Request for Reconsideration relative to Application Serial No. 10/827,411 is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (571) 273-8300) on 4-4-07.


Theresa M. Palmateer

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